

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1           1. (Currently Amended) A connection cable comprising:  
2           an optical cable; and,  
3           an integrated electrical connector permanently fixed to the optical cable,  
4           the integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to a matching  
5           electrical connector on a target device;  
6           wherein data transmission through the optical cable uses a protocol that  
7           is different than a protocol used for data transmission between the integrated  
8           electrical connector and the matching electrical connector.

1           2. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 additionally comprising:  
2           a second integrated electrical connector permanently fixed to the optical  
3           cable, the second integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to  
4           a matching electrical connector on a second target device.

1           3. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein the optical cable  
2           consists of a single optical fiber.

1           4. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein the optical cable  
2 consists of multiple optical fibers.

1           5. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein data transmission  
2 through the optical cable is at least one of the following:

3           digital data transmission;

4           analog data transmission.

1           6. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein the matching  
2 electrical connector is compatible with at least on of the following protocols:

3           universal serial bus (USB) protocol;

4           USB 2;

5           IEEE 1394 (Firewire);

6           Firewire 800;

7           Ethernet;

8           Enterprise Systems Connection (ESCON);

9           Infiniband;

10          a proprietary system interconnection.

1           7. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein data transmission  
2 through the optical cable is compatible with at least one of the following:

3           synchronous optical network (Sonet) protocol;

4           optical fibre channel protocol;

5 Ethernet protocol.

1 8. (Currently Amended) A method for constructing a connection cable  
2 comprising the following step:

3 permanently fixing an integrated electrical connector to an optical cable,  
4 the integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to a matching  
5 electrical connector on a target device;

6 wherein data transmission through the optical cable uses a protocol that  
7 is different than a protocol used for data transmission between the integrated  
8 electrical connector and the matching electrical connector.

9 .

1 9. (Original) A method as in claim 8 additionally comprising the  
2 following step:

3 permanently fixing a second integrated electrical connector to the optical  
4 cable, the second integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to  
5 a matching electrical connector on a second target device.

1 10. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein the optical cable consists of  
2 a single optical fiber.

1 11. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein the optical cable consists of  
2 multiple optical fibers.

1           12. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein data transmission through  
2 the optical cable is at least one of the following:  
3           digital data transmission;  
4           analog data transmission.

1           13. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein the matching electrical  
2 connector is compatible with at least on of the following protocols:  
3           universal serial bus (USB) protocol;  
4           USB 2;  
5           IEEE 1394 (Firewire);  
6           Firewire 800;  
7           Ethernet;  
8           Enterprise Systems Connection (ESCON);  
9           Infiniband;  
10          a proprietary system interconnection.

1           14. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein data transmission through  
2 the optical cable is compatible with at least one of the following:  
3           synchronous optical network (Sonet) protocol;  
4           optical fibre channel protocol;  
5           Ethernet protocol.

1           15. (Currently Amended) A method for connecting two target devices  
2 comprising the following steps:  
3           plugging a first integrated electrical connector permanently affixed to an  
4 optical cable into a matching electrical connector of a first target device; and,  
5           plugging a second integrated electrical connector permanently affixed to  
6 the optical cable into a matching electrical connector of a second target device;  
7           wherein data transmission through the optical cable uses a protocol that  
8 is different than a protocol used for data transmission between the integrated  
9 electrical connector and the matching electrical connector.

1           16. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein the optical cable consists  
2 of a single optical fiber.

1           17. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein the optical cable consists  
2 of multiple optical fibers.

1           18. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein data transmission  
2 through the optical cable is at least one of the following:  
3           digital data transmission;  
4           analog data transmission.

1           19. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein the matching electrical  
2 connector is compatible with at least on of the following protocols:

3 universal serial bus (USB) protocol;  
4 USB 2;  
5 IEEE 1394 (Firewire);  
6 Firewire 800;  
7 Ethernet;  
8 Enterprise Systems Connection (ESCON);  
9 Infiniband;  
10 a proprietary system interconnection.

1 20. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein data transmission  
2 through the optical cable is compatible with at least one of the following:  
3 synchronous optical network (Sonet) protocol;  
4 optical fibre channel protocol;  
5 Ethernet protocol.